

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 00411 181331Z

ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W

-----042777 182307Z /63

R 181151Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 763

INFO USLO RIYADH

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

UNCLAS JIDDA 0411

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EPAP, BGEN, SA

SUBJ: REQUIREMENTS FOR MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS

REF: STATE 008388 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL ASKS WHETHER MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS DESTINED FOR CONSUMPTION BY U.S. PERSONNEL STATIONED IN SAUDI ARABIA ARE SUBJECT TO REGULAR SAG REQUIREMENTS. INCLUDING ISLAMIC SLAUGHTER. POST ASSUMES QUESTION RELATES TO COMMERCIAL MEAT IMPORTS AND NOT REPEAT NOT TO IMPORTS BY U.S. MILITARY COMMISSARIES IN KINGDOM.

2. DIRECTOR OF JIDDA OFFICE OF MINISTRY OF COMMERCE STATES ALL IMPORTED MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS ENTERING KINGDOM ARE SUBJECT TO SAME SAG MEAT IMPORT REGULATIONS. HE QUALIFIED THIS REMARK BY STATION THAT SPECIAL EXEMPTIONS MIGHT REPEAT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE IF CIRCUMSTANCES EXPLANINED TO MINISTRY OF COMMERCE BY LOCAL IMPORTERS; ANY DECISION WOULD BE ON AN HOC BASIS.

3. WE ARE POUCHING TO STATE/NEA/ARP DESK COPY OF MEAT IMPORT REGULATIONS PROVIDED BY MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, DIRECTIVE NO. 1338 DATED AH 1/5/1395 (APPROX. 1975), ALONG WITH INFORMAL, UNOFFICIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION.
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4. EMBASSY HAS BEEN APPROCHED BY U.S. FIRMS BASED RIYADH. CONNEL BROS., WHICH FOR PAST YEAR HAS BEEN IMPORTING MEAT FOR U.S. CONSTRUCTION CREW WITHOUT REPEAT WITHOUT ATTESTATION TO ISLAMIC SLAUGHTER OF ANIMAL, ACCORDING TO CONNEL REP. ALSO ACCORDING TO LATTER, CONFORMING TO REGULAR SAG REQUIREMENTS WILL CAUSE MAJOR HARDSHIP

TO FIRM.

5. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE CONFIRM TO FIRM POSSIBILITY OF ITS OBTAINING SPECIAL EXEMPTION FROM MINISTRY OF COMMERCE ON BAISIS THAT MEAT IMPORTS ARE FOR EXPATRIATES AND DO NOT ENTER SAUDI ECONOMY, WE HAVE SUGGESTED COMPANY PURSUE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH AN EXEMPATION DIRECTLY WITH MINISTRY OF COMMERCE OFFICIALS.

6. PLEASE SEND US COPY OF USDA/FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY SERVICE MPI BULLETION 77-141 DATED DECEMBER 12, 1977 SHICH CONCERNS SAG MEAT IMPORT REGULATIONS. SEND ATTN, COMMERCIAL OFFICE, AMERICAN EMBASSY, APO NEW YORK 09697.
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NNN

Message Attributes

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